ATLAS

RAWHIDE KID

HE SHARES HIS SADDLE WITH DANGER!

SEPT.

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

10¢

RAWHIDE KID

ALL BRAND NEW TALES!

KEEP YOUR HANDS IN PLAIN SIGHT, HOMBRES... OR DRAW!

WHAT WAS THE SECRET OF "THE FLAMING GEM"?

We will send you the wonderful prizes pictured on this page . . . or dozens of others, such as jewelry, radium dial wrist watches, tableware, tools, U-Make-It kits, leather kits, sewing kits, electric clocks, pressure cookers, scout equipment, model airplanes, movie machines, record players, and many others . . . all WITHOUT ONE PENNY OF COST. You don't risk or invest a cent—we send you everything you need ON TRUST. Here's how easy it is: Merely show your friends and neighbors inspiring, beautiful Religious Wall Motto plaques. Many buy six or even more to hang in every room. An amazing value, only 35c . . . sell on sight. You can secure big, cash commissions or many exciting prizes for selling just one set of 24 Mottos. Write today for Big Prize catalog sent to you FREE!

SEND NO MONEY—*We Trust You!*

HERE'S HOW YOU GET YOUR PRIZES

Rush your name and address on coupon and we ship AT ONCE PREPAID your first set of 24 big size richly decorated Mottos On 15 Days TRUST. When you have sold the 24 Mottos, send the $8.40 you have collected and you can secure your choice of many wonderful prizes. Hurry, send TODAY for 24 Mottos ON TRUST and big PRIZE CATALOG FREE!

FREE Membership in FUNman's Fun Club

EXTRA! Sell mottos and send payment within 15 days, and we'll give you FREE a year's Membership in the FUNman's Fun Club. Membership card, certificate, secret code, giant packet of fun materials all yours—PLUS many extra surprises!

The FUNman, Dept. X-132, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Ill.

FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG

Please rush to me on 15 days credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount required as explained under description of prize in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 15 days and select the prize I want or keep a cash commission as explained.

NAME..... AGE.....

STREET or RFD .....

TOWN..... Zone..... STATE.....

SEND NO MONEY! . . . We Trust You!

The FUNman, Dept. X-132, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Illinois

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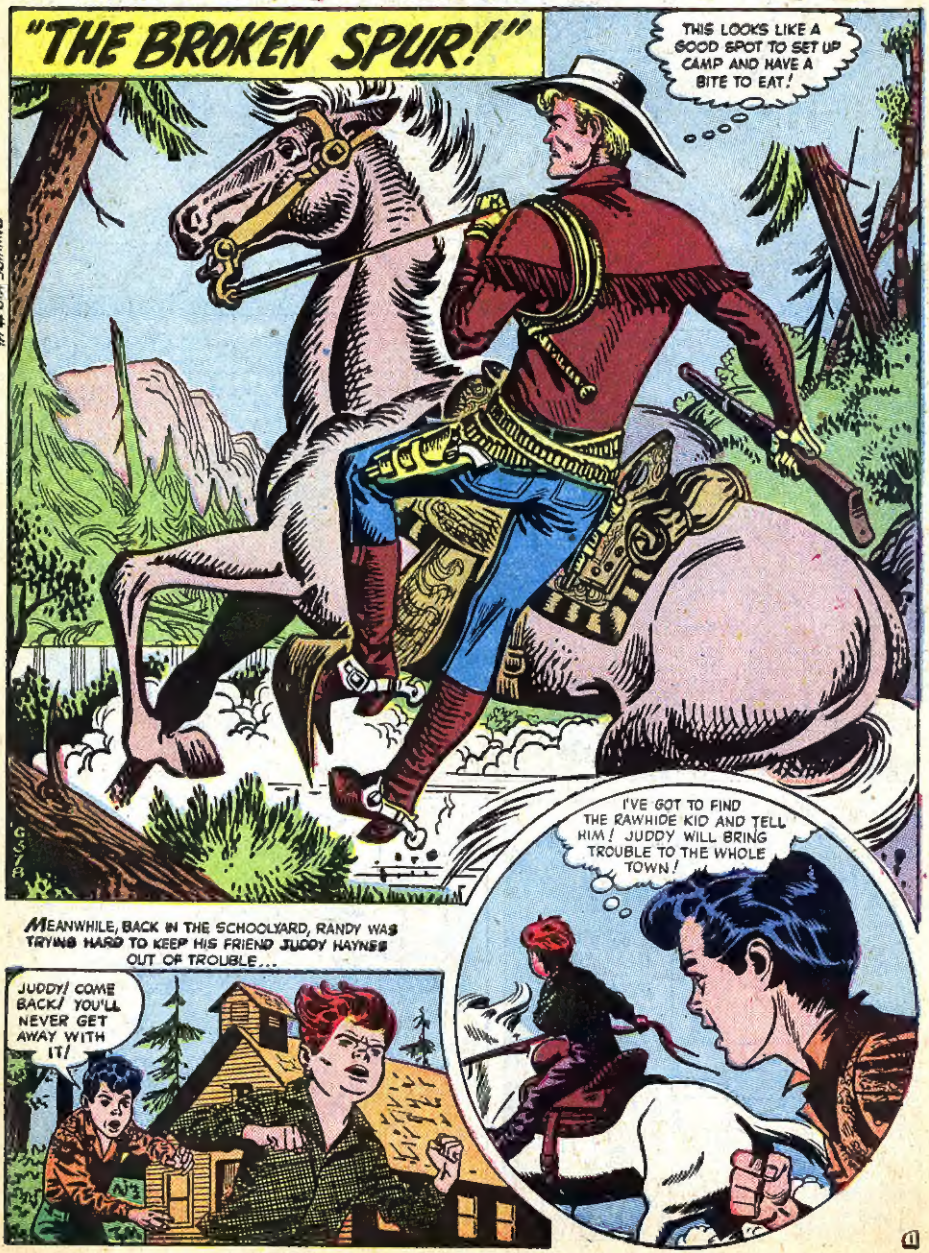
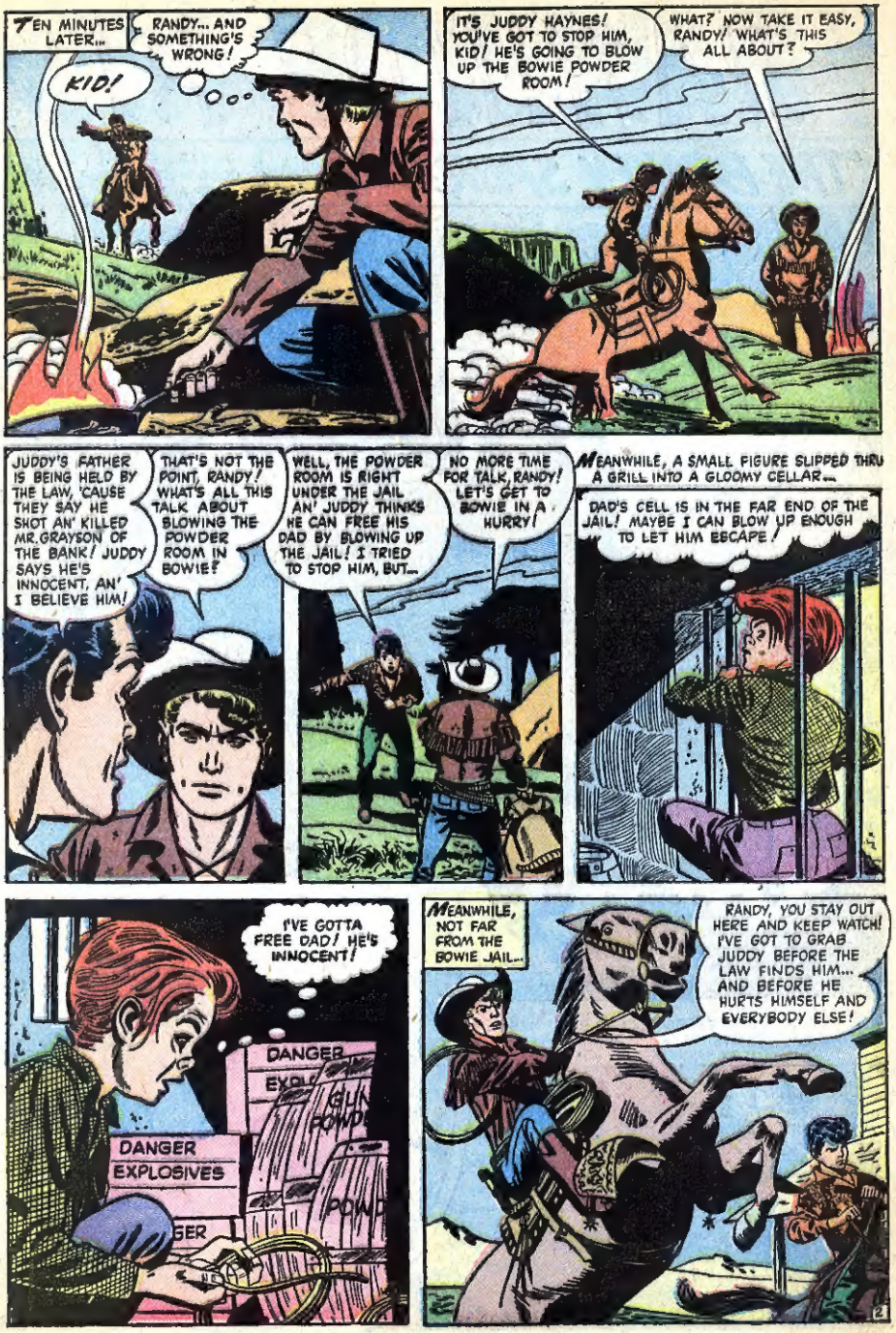
THE RAWHIDE KID

"THE BROKEN SPUR!"

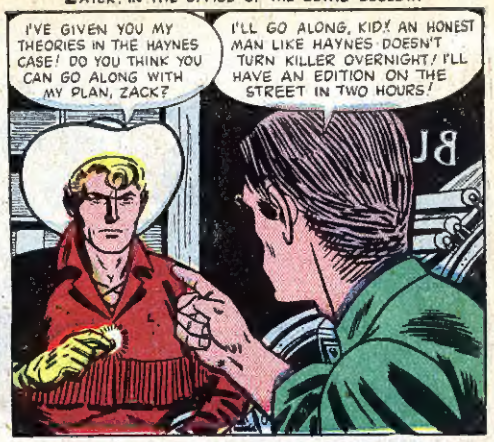

THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD SPOT TO SET UP CAMP AND HAVE A BITE TO EAT!
I'VE GOT TO FIND THE RAWHIDE KID AND TELL HIM! JUDDY WILL BRING TROUBLE TO THE WHOLE TOWN!
MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE SCHOOLYARD, RANDY WAS TRYING HARD TO KEEP HIS FRIEND JUDDY HAYNES OUT OF TROUBLE...
JUDDY! COME BACK! YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT!


TEN MINUTES LATER...
RANDY... AND SOMETHING'S WRONG!
KID!
IT'S JUDDY HAYNES! YOU'VE GOT TO STOP HIM, KID! HE'S GOING TO BLOW UP THE BOWIE POWDER ROOM!
WHAT? NOW TAKE IT EASY, RANDY! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
JUDDY'S FATHER IS BEING HELD BY THE LAW, 'CAUSE THEY SAY HE SHOT AN' KILLED MR. GRAYSON OF THE BANK! JUDDY SAYS HE'S INNOCENT, AN' I BELIEVE HIM!
THAT'S NOT THE POINT, RANDY! WHAT'S ALL THIS TALK ABOUT BLOWING THE POWDER ROOM IN BOWIE?
WELL, THE POWDER ROOM IS RIGHT UNDER THE JAIL AN' JUDDY THINKS HE CAN FREE HIS DAD BY BLOWING UP THE JAIL! I TRIED TO STOP HIM, BUT...
NO MORE TIME FOR TALK, RANDY! LET'S GET TO BOWIE IN A HURRY!
MEANWHILE, A SMALL FIGURE SLIPPED THRU A GRILL INTO A GLOOMY CELLAR...
DAD'S CELL IS IN THE FAR END OF THE JAIL! MAYBE I CAN BLOW UP ENOUGH TO LET HIM ESCAPE!
I'VE GOTTA FREE DAD! HE'S INNOCENT!
DANGER
EXPLOSIVES
MEANWHILE, NOT FAR FROM THE BOWIE JAIL...
RANDY, YOU STAY OUT HERE AND KEEP WATCH! I'VE GOT TO GRAB JUDDY BEFORE THE LAW FINDS HIM... AND BEFORE HE HURTS HIMSELF AND EVERYBODY ELSE!

THAT POOR KID'S UPSET! THERE'S THE POWDER-ROOM ENTRANCE! HE'S INSIDE!
A MATCH SPUTTERED AND FLAMED! A FUSE HISSED, WHEN SUDDENLY...
PUT IT OUT, YOU LITTLE WILDCAT!
HUH?
LET GO OF ME! I'M DOING THIS FOR MY DAD! HE'S INNOCENT, YOU HEAR?
HUSH UP, JUDDY! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THEY FIND US!
GOSH, YOU GOT HIM, KID!
LET'S GET OUT OF TOWN, RANDY! COME ON!
AN HOUR LATER, IN THE HILLS OVERLOOKING BOWIE...
JUDDY, YOU SAY YOUR DAD IS INNOCENT! TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM!
WELL, LAST NIGHT DAD WENT TO SEE MR. GRAYSON AT THE BANK! IT WAS ABOUT THE MORTGAGE ON THE RANCH!
"WHEN WE GOT THERE, THE DOOR WAS OPEN A BIT..."
MAYBE MR. GRAYSON HAS COMPANY, DAD! THE DOOR'S OPEN!
HE SAID HE'D BE ALONE! YOU WAIT OUT HERE, JUDDY!
BANK
"DAD WENT INSIDE! SUDDENLY I HEARD A SHOT—AND THEN ANOTHER SHOT..."
DAD!
WHRAM
WHRAM

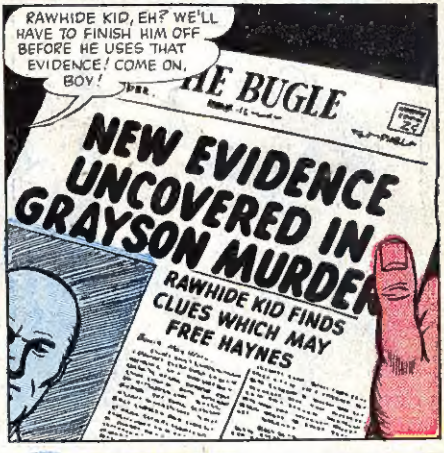
I RAN INSIDE! MR. GRAYSON WAS SLUMPED OVER HIS DESK, AND DAD WAS ON THE FLOOR GROANING...
DAD! WHAT HAPPENED? ARE YOU HURT?
M-MY HEAD! THEY SLUGGED ME AN' GOT OUT THE BACK WINDOW! CALL THE SHERIFF, JUDDY! MR. GRAYSON IS...DEAD!
ON YOUR FEET, HAYNES! YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TALK FAST TO EXPLAIN THIS!
HE DIDN'T DO IT, SHERIFF! DAD WAS BUSHWHACKED! TWO MEN GOT AWAY THRU THE BACK WINDOW!
THAT'S ABOUT IT! I RECKON IT WORKED MIGHTY BAD FOR DAD! FOLKS SAY HE HASN'T MUCH OF A CHANCE AT THE TRIAL!
YOU SAY YOU HEARD TWO SHOTS, JUDDY, AND I BELIEVE YOU! MAYBE YOUR DAD WALKED IN RIGHT AFTER THOSE SIDEWINDERS SHOT MR. GRAYSON!
DAD'S GUN HAD BEEN FIRED... ONCE! I FOUND THIS PIECE OF BROKEN SPUR NEAR THE REAR WINDOW!
LET ME SEE IT, JUDDY! HMM... MUST BELONG TO ONE OF THE BUSHWHACKERS!
RANDY, STAMP OUT THE FIRE AND WAIT FOR ME AT JUDDY HAYNES'S RANCH!
WE'LL WAIT, KID! TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF!
HALF AN HOUR LATER, IN BOWIE...
WELL, IT'S AN UNUSUAL REQUEST, BUT GO AHEAD! IT WOULD TAKE SOME DOING TO FREE BILL HAYNES!
I'VE GOTTA TRY, MR. GANNON! I WON'T BE LONG!
BANK
BANKING HOURS 9:00
THE RAWHIDE KID WASTED NO TIME! HIS PRACTICED EYES SCRUTINIZED THE BANKER'S OFFICE CAREFULLY...
A BULLET HOLE! JUDDY WAS RIGHT ...TWO SHOTS WERE FIRED! ONE KILLED GRAYSON, THE OTHER PLOWED THRU THE FLOOR! GOT TO GET INTO THE CELLAR!

LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOWIE BUGLE...


I'VE GIVEN YOU MY THEORIES IN THE HAYNES CASE! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN GO ALONG WITH MY PLAN, ZACK?
I'LL GO ALONG, KID! AN HONEST MAN LIKE HAYNES DOESN'T TURN KILLER OVERNIGHT! I'LL HAVE AN EDITION ON THE STREET IN TWO HOURS!

A FEW HOURS LATER, IN A HIDEAWAY NEAR BOWIE...

WE GOTTA CLEAR OUT OF TOWN, TULLY! LOOK AT THIS! JUST HIT THE STREET IN BOWIE!
LET'S SEE IT, BARTLETT!
THE BUGLE
NEW EVIDENCE UNCOVERED IN GRAYSON MURDER

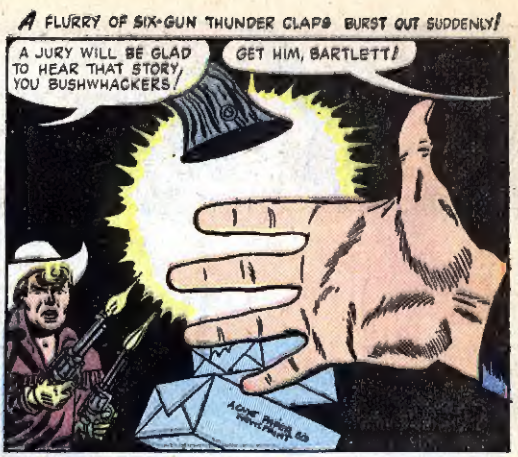

RAWHIDE KID, EH? WE'LL HAVE TO FINISH HIM OFF BEFORE HE USES THAT EVIDENCE! COME ON, BOY!
THE BUGLE
NEW EVIDENCE UNCOVERED IN GRAYSON MURDER
RAWHIDE KID FINDS CLUES WHICH MAY FREE HAYNES

A SHORT WHILE LATER...

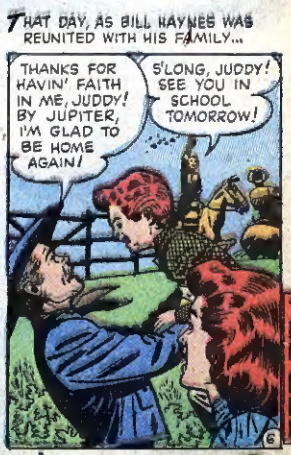
HOWDY, AMIGO! WHERE DOES THIS RANNY CALLS HISSELF THE RAWHIDE KID HANG OUT? WE'RE PALS OF HIS FROM YUMA!
YOU'LL FIND HIM DOWN AT THE BUGLE OFFICE!

MEANWHILE...
SET YORE TYPE FOR A NEW HEADLINE, MISTER... "PUBLISHER DIES! NEW EVIDENCE DIES WITH HIM!"
I TAKE IT YOU MUST HAVE A STAKE IN GRAYSON'S DEATH!

YOU GUESSED RIGHT! WE KILLED GRAYSON! HAYNES WALKED IN AND WAS SLUGGED FROM BEHIND, JUST AS HE FIRED AT ME!
WE WERE READY TO TAKE OVER HAYNES'S RANCH... BUT GRAYSON WOULDN'T FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE... WAL, WE AIM TO GET THAT RANCH ANYWAY, BUT FIRST...


A FLURRY OF SIX-GUN THUNDER CLAPS BURST OUT SUDDENLY!
A JURY WILL BE GLAD TO HEAR THAT STORY, YOU BUSHWHACKERS!
GET HIM, BARTLETT!

LATER...
BILL HAYNES'S KID FOUND THIS BROKEN SPUR IN THE BANK, SHERIFF! IT BELONGS TO TULLY!
THANKS, KID! WE'LL SET BILL HAYNES FREE PRONTO!


THAT DAY, AS BILL HAYNES WAS REUNITED WITH HIS FAMILY...
THANKS FOR HAVIN' FAITH IN ME, JUDDY! BY JUPITER, I'M GLAD TO BE HOME AGAIN!
S'LONG, JUDDY! SEE YOU IN SCHOOL TOMORROW!
THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WESTERN THRILLS LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

MYSTERY! MAGIC! SCIENCE! FUN!

To Amuse and Amaze Your Friends

5 IN 1 WAND

A necessary tool for the amateur magician and a good joke too. Plastic, 14 inches long with white tips and a black center. 5 exciting tricks—Rises, jumps, produces silk, etc.

No. 240 ..... **1.50**

Boomerang

Here's something new in target throwing. In case you miss, it comes right back to you, and bingo! you're all set to fire again. More fun than a barrel of monkeys.

No. 141 ..... **50¢**

THROW YOUR VOICE

Ventro & Book

Your chance to be a ventriloquist. Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, and everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. You'll fool the teacher, your friends and your family and have fun doing it. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist."

No 137 ..... **25¢**

RADIO MIKE

Talk, Sing, Play thru your radio

Sing, laugh, talk, crack jokes from another room and your voice will be reproduced thru the radio! Fool everybody into thinking it's coming right out of the radio. Easily attached to most standard radios. Made of handsome enameled metal 4 inches high.

No 312 ..... **1.98**

ALIVE! Performing Chameleon

Watch it change color! How does it do it? Nobody knows. But everyone agrees that it's great fun watching them. The change takes only a few minutes and it happens right in front of your eyes. It catches flies and other annoying insects. Send for a pair and then watch the fun. Endless entertainment with these playful little creatures.

No. 135 ..... **75¢**

WHOOPEE CUSHION

Place it on a chair under a cushion, then watch the fun when someone sits down! It gives forth embarrassing noises. Made of rubber, and inflatable. A scream at parties and gatherings.

No. 247 ..... **50¢**

TRICK BASEBALL

It bounces cockeyed, it curves, it dips, it's impossible to catch. It's sure to set all the kids on the block spinning after it. There's a barrel of fun in every bounce of this amazing baseball.

No 158 ..... **50¢**

POWERFUL COMPACT ONE TUBE RADIO

Pocket Size . . . Brings in stations up to 1000 miles away

Modern electronics makes this wonderful set possible. So small it will fit in a pocket. Everything is supplied for you. Easy to assemble in a few minutes with just a screw driver. No soldering required. Really powerful too. Announcements of stations up to 1000 miles away come in so loud and clear you'd think they were right next home. Learn many useful and important things about radio.

No. 205 ..... **3.98**

JOY BUZZER

The most popular joke novelty in years! Wind up and wear it like a ring. When you shake hands, it almost raises the victim off his feet with a "shocking sensation". Absolutely harmless.

No. 239..... Only **50¢**

Costume Set Designed for Every Boy

Style 160

Style 160 —For you he-men, we've got the newest, most exciting and tremendous play suit of its time. A complete Superman outfit in fine durable washable rayon gabardine. Outfit includes red cape with screened Superman figure, navy and red suit with gilt figure "S", and belt. Be first to get this wonderful outfit. Sizes 4-14 ..... **6.98**

AMAZING WRIST RADIO

Wowee! A wrist radio like Dick Tracy's that really works. Receives regular broadcasts up to about 10 miles, and actually transmitting your voice over short distances when connected to another set. You wear it like a watch, but listen in like a radio. No batteries, no electricity, no tubes. Built in earphone and aerial.

No 133 ..... **2.98**

First chop a cigarette in two in either hole. Then put finger in top hole and cigarette in lower. The cigarette is cut, but your finger is unharmed. Thrilling. Full instructions included.

No. 222 ..... Only **1.00**

10 DAY TRIAL FREE

HONOR HOUSE PRODUCTS CORP., Lynbrook, N. Y. Dept. GM 5

Cannot ship orders totalling less than $1.00.

Rush me the items listed below. If I am not satisfied I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days free trial for full refund of the purchase price.

ITEM #	NAME OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

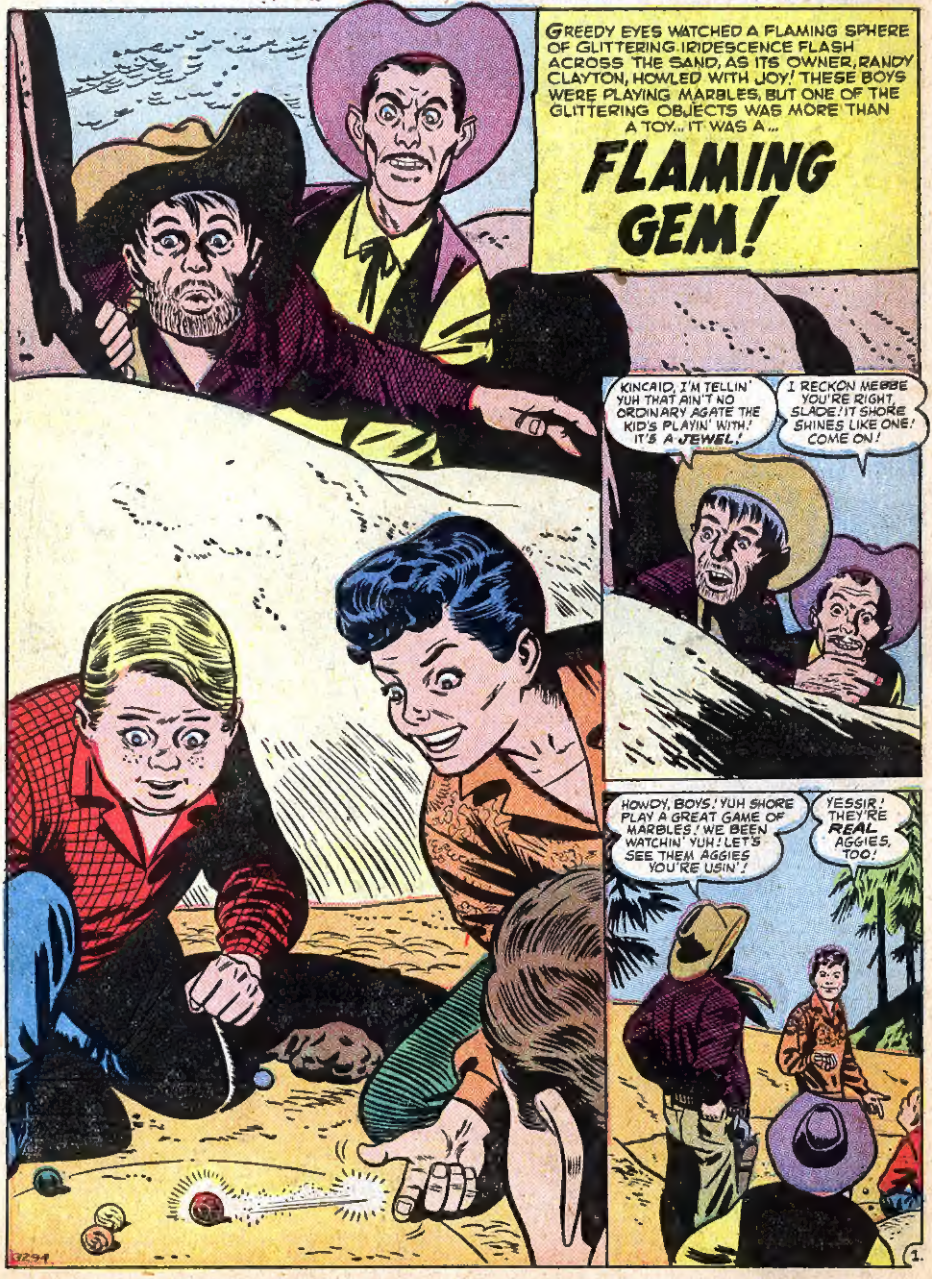
☐ I enclose _____ in full payment. The Honor House Products Corp. will pay postage.

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus a few cents postage.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

THE RAWHIDE KID


GREEDY EYES WATCHED A FLAMING SPHERE OF GLITTERING IRIDESCENCE FLASH ACROSS THE SAND, AS ITS OWNER, RANDY CLAYTON, HOWLED WITH JOY! THESE BOYS WERE PLAYING MARBLES, BUT ONE OF THE GLITTERING OBJECTS WAS MORE THAN A TOY... IT WAS A...
FLAMING GEM!
KINCAID, I'M TELLIN' YUH THAT AIN'T NO ORDINARY AGATE THE KID'S PLAYIN' WITH! IT'S A JEWEL!
I RECKON MEBBE YOU'RE RIGHT, SLADE! IT SHORE SHINES LIKE ONE! COME ON!
HOWDY, BOYS! YUH SHORE PLAY A GREAT GAME OF MARBLES! WE BEEN WATCHIN' YUH! LET'S SEE THEM AGGIES YOU'RE USIN'!
YESSIR! THEY'RE REAL AGGIES, TOO!
1.

TIMBER SLADE'S EYES GLEAMED WITH GREED, AS HE RECOGNIZED THE PRECIOUS STONE! IT WAS A FIRE OPAL!
IT'S A REAL FIRE OPAL.. AN' THE BEST I EVER LAID EYES ON! WORTH A KING'S RAMSOM, TOO!
THAT'S A NICE AGGIE, BOY K NO OF GLASSY, BUT IT'S SHORE PURTY! WHERE D YUH GET IT?
I GOT A SECRET PLACE WHERE THE AGGIES GET NICE AN' ROUND SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO SMOOTH 'EM!
HERE'S SOME CHANGE, BOY! THAR'S ENOUGH THERE TO BUY YORESELF A DOZEN AGGIES! WE'LL KEEP THIS ONE!
NO, SIR! I WON'T SELL IT FOR ANY MONEY! IT'S MY FAVORITE SHOOTER! GIVE IT BACK TO ME!
WE MADE A DEAL! NOW SHUT UP!
HEY! YOU CAN'T DO THAT! RANDY DION'T MAKE NO DEAL WITH YOU!
IMAGINE THAT YOUNG WEASEL REFUSIN' GOOD MONEY FER A HUNK OF ROUND GLASS!
IN THE NEXT MOMENT, RANDY TORE INTO THEM LIKE A WILDCAT...
WHY, YUH LI'L RATTLER! I'LL....
HEY!
TWO CLAPS OF SIX-GUN THUNDER SHATTERED THE AIR...
2

THANKS, RANDY! I WAS JUST GOING TO MAKE AN HONEST MAN OF HIM! BUT YOU'VE DONE IT!
I SAW THAT BIT OF PLAY, YOU BUZZARDS! GIVE BACK THE THINGS YOU TOOK FROM THESE KIDS!
THEY CAN HAVE 'EM! THEY'RE ONLY GLASS ANYWAY!
TAKE 'EM!
NOW GET SCARCE! IF YOU TURN BACK JUST ONCE, I'LL MAKE YOU WISH YOU WERE IN A NICE STATE JAIL!
WE BETTER BE GETTING HOME! THANKS, AND I'LL SURE TELL MY DAD HOW YOU FIXED THEM SIDEWINDERS!
S'LONG, BILLY... DICK! SEE YOU AGAIN SOON!
THEY GAVE ME SOME MONEY FOR MY AGGIE. BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO SELL IT, KID! IT'S MY BEST SHOOTER!
IT'S A BEAUTY, RANDY! NO WONDER THEY WANTED IT! WHERE'D YOU GET IT?
WE WERE TROUT FISHING UP ARROWHEAD CREEK YONDER, AND I FOUND IT IN A SANDY POCKET NEAR THE BROOK! I CAN FIND MORE UP THERE, IF I WANT TO!
RANDY, LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THIS THING YOU CALL AN AGGIE! IT'S WORTH A HUNDRED TIMES ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD!
YOU'RE LOOKING AT ONE OF THE FINEST SPECIMENS OF FIRE OPAL I'VE EVER SEEN! IT'S A PRECIOUS JEWEL!
A JEWEL? GOSH... AND I WAS USING IT AS A MARBLE!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

GAIN WEIGHT
IN 7 DAYS OR DON'T PAY!

Amazing New Easy Way Quickly Puts Appealing Pounds and Inches on Your SKINNY Body, Chest, Arms, Legs!

NOT A MEDICINE! NOT JUST VITAMINS! BUT A BRAND NEW CONCENTRATED FOOD WITH EASY TO DIGEST WONDER CALORIES

You, too, can start putting weight on the first day with the POUNDS PLUS plan! Thousands now gain who never thought they could with this amazing discovery of medical science. You gain 2, 4, as much as 7 pounds in a week, until you reach the weight that most becomes you . . . so quickly, it's a cinch. Scrawny figures gain pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh on body, chest, arms, legs, thighs, ankles. Cheeks and neck fill out . . . wherever you need it.

POUNDS PLUS is entirely safe, no drugs, no fish oils . . . is not merely vitamins . . . Instead it's a delicious pleasant-tasting tablet jam-packed with wonder calories . . . a secret new concentrated food formula that also aids digestion, starts putting weight on the very first day. POUNDS PLUS plan also stimulates the appetite, supplies quick pep and energy, the magic glow of health . . . for men, women, children, convalescents. Don't be skinny, underweight or pepless. Mail the coupon today!

Easy Weight Gains of 7 Pounds in 7 Days Reported

FAMILY DOCTORS—
Your recommendation is welcome.
Write for professional samples.

SEND NO MONEY
TEST AT OUR RISK

MAIL THIS NO-RISK COUPON TODAY!

Pounds Plus Company, Dept. 156 S Box 820, New York 17, N. Y.

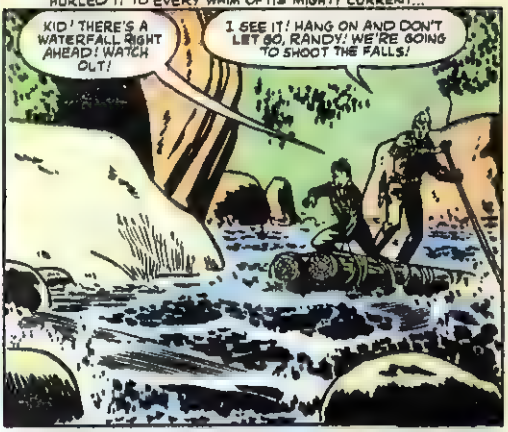
Send one Package of POUNDS PLUS. I'll pay $2.98 plus C.O.D. postage on arrival on guarantee that if I am not satisfied with weight gained, I may return the empty package for a full refund. (Cash orders mailed postage prepaid.)

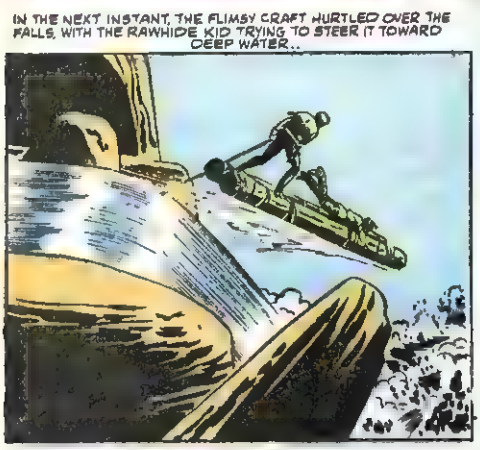
☐ Put X here if you want 3 for $6.00.
☐ I enclose payment. You stand charges.
☐ Send C.O.D., I will pay postal charges.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

RANDY, WE'RE HEADING UP ARROWHEAD CREEK!
THAT'S SWELL, KID! I'LL HURRY BACK TO THE SCHOOL YARD AND GET KING!
MEANWHILE...
YOU HEARD WHAT THAT LI'L VARMINT SAID! THERE'S MORE OF THEM OPALS IN A SECRET PLACE!
AND THE KID THINKS THEY'RE AGGIES! WE GOTTA WATCH AND FOLLOW HIM! WE'LL START RIGHT NOW!
HOURS LATER, THE RAWHIDE KID AND HIS LITTLE PARTNER FOLLOWED THE ARROWHEAD BETWEEN THE WALLS OF A GREAT CANYON...
IT'S ROUGH COUNTRY HERE, RANDY! I DON'T EVER WANT YOU TO COME UP THIS FAR ALONE AGAIN!
I WON'T IF YOU SAY SO, KID! BUT THERE'S GOOD FISHING HERE!
IT'S RIGHT UP THERE, KID... WHERE THAT FEEDER STREAM RUNS INTO THE GORGE!
I SEE THE SPOT! LET'S KEEP GOING, RANDY!
THE RAWHIDE KID'S EXPERIENCED EYES SAW THE STORY WRITTEN BY NATURE...
YES, THIS WOULD BE THE PLACE! THE CURRENT WASHES THE STONES DOWN-STREAM AND POLISHES THEM SMOOTH AND ROUND BY ITS ACTION!
AND RIGHT THERE IS WHERE I FOUND THE OPAL! I SAW MORE THERE, TOO!
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT, RANDY! YOU MIGHT HAVE STUMBLED ON ONE OF NATURE'S SECRETS!
I'LL SIFT SOME PEBBLES THROUGH MY HANDS AND HELP YOU LOOK!
HALF AN HOUR LATER...
LOOK HERE! A BEAUTY... SMALL, BUT PERFECT!
AND I'VE GOT ANOTHER! LET'S GET ALL WE CAN, KID!

AFTER SIFTING THROUGH EVERY PEBBLE IN THE POOL, THE KID AND HIS PARTNER HELD UP THE SMALL TREASURE...
SIX OF EM, RANDY! KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS? IT MEANS WE'LL NEVER WANT FOR THINGS AGAIN! WE WON'T BE RICH, BUT WE'LL NEVER WANT!
G-GOSH!
SUDDENLY,
SOMEBODY'S SHOOTIN' AT US!
GET UNDER COVER, QUICK!
THE KID'S SHARP EYES DETECTED A MOVEMENT ABOVE, AND HIS GUNS BLAZED...
I THINK THERE ARE TWO OF 'EM, AND I'VE GOT A HUNCH WHO THEY ARE, AND WHAT THEY WANT!
THOSE TWO RATTLERS WHO TRIED TO GET MY AGGIE?
THEY'VE GOT US IN A BAD SPOT, RANDY! WE CAN'T BREAK OUT, BECAUSE THE SLOPE'S TOO STEEP, AND THEY CAN COVER US FROM UP THERE!
WHAT'LL WE DO, KID?
TAKE THESE AND KEEP THEM UNDER COVER, RANDY! I THINK I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
ALL RIGHT, KID!
THE RAWHIDE KID CRAWLED AWAY AND RETURNED HALF AN HOUR LATER...
THEY HAVEN'T BLOGGED, KID! I FIRED EVERY TIME THEY SHOWED THEIR STETSONS!
GOOD! NOW LISTEN CLOSE! I'VE LASHED A COUPLE OF LOGS TOGETHER! WE'LL CUT THE HORSES LOOSE AND SHOOT THE RAPIDS!
A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
HANG ON, RANDY! HERE WE GO!
I'M READY!
5


THE CASCADING RAPIDS TOOK THE RAFT LIKE A MATCHSTICK, AND HURLED IT TO EVERY WHIM OF ITS MIGHTY CURRENT...
KID! THERE'S A WATERFALL RIGHT AHEAD! WATCH OUT!
I SEE IT! HANG ON AND DON'T LET GO, RANDY! WE'RE GOING TO SHOOT THE FALLS!



KINCAID AND SLADE NEVER KNEW WHAT HIT THEM. BUT THEY HAD TIME TO COOL OFF AND THINK ABOUT IT..
HEAD DOWNSTREAM, BOYS! YOU MAY COME UP WITH SOME OPALS, BY THE TIME YOU REACH LAND!

RANDY, YOU KNOW I NEVER HAD MUCH SCHOOLING, SO I FIGURE YOU OUGHT TO GET YOUR SHARE! WE'RE HEADING FOR A BANK! THESE OPALS WILL PUT YOU THROUGH COLLEGE!
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BRAND FOR TROUBLE

OVER the north pastures of the Zero 2 Ranch, the February snow came down in a fine, stinging stream. Beyond was the frozen stretch of the Bartlett river and beyond that the tumbled, broken rocky approaches to the vast National Park area. To the east was unbroken prairie fenced in at two miles distance.

To the west was the barbed wire fence that separated the Lucky Key Ranch from the Zero 2.

Matt Branner came riding up the now hidden trail toward the north pastures. He had left the ranch house an hour before with his foreman, Kyle Nevins. A part of the north herd, among them several dozen dogies, had been separated from the main herd during the blizzard the previous night. Now safely in corrals, the cows were lowing for their lost calves.

The two men struggled up the trail, steam spurting from their mounts' nostrils. Every so often the low line of hillocks that marked the trail would disappear, to appear again a thousand feet away. Snow was covering everything fast, adding to the fourteen-inch depth of the previous night's blizzard.

Matt Branner pulled up hard and short, and pointed.

"There they are," he said abruptly.

Kyle Nevins brushed snow from his thick brows and peered ahead.

"Yep, that's them, Mr. Branner," he said. "Lucky you spotted 'em when you did. I don't relish crossing that river ice and huntin' high and low in the Park land."

Up ahead, beyond a shallow gulch, the missing remnants of the cattle herd huddled against the snow and cold. The backs of the animals were all turned against the wind, and, in the center of the group, were gathered the calves.

Matt Branner heaved a sigh of relief and slapped rowels. A few moments later, he and his foreman came up to the herd. Branner made a quick count. Then he frowned.

"Two calves missing," he said.

"Might have strayed during the night," Nevins said.

"Might have," Branner admitted. He sat there on his horse, lost in thought.

"If you're thinkin' what I think you're thinkin'," Nevins began, dubiously, "well . . . I wouldn't."

"Well, Tate Leggins *might* have rustled 'em," Branner said. "He'd have had a good chance to, usin' the snow for cover."

Nevins glanced at his boss wearily.

"Mr. Branner, just because a stray showed up in Tate's herd last year, is no reason to think he's a cattle rustler," he said.

"That so?" Branner said. He was staring toward the barbed wire fence dividing the two ranches. Nevins followed the direction of his glance and almost jumped. Leaning against the wire were two calves. Branner, abandoning the herd for a moment, rode over to the wire fence, dismounted and peered at the calves. Suddenly he made a gesture to Nevins.

"Let's have the wire clippers," he said.

"What for, boss?" the foreman asked uneasily. "They're Lucky Key calves . . . you can see the new brand, can't you?"

"Sure I see it," Branner said grimly. "I can also see an older brand further down on the flanks. Our brand, Kyle, the brand of the Zero 2. I guess that proves Tate Leggins rustled these two calves."

Reluctantly Nevins handed over the clippers. "Well, maybe," he said, as Branner cut the two wire strands, led the dogies through the opening and then spliced the wire ends together again. "But you can't be sure, Mr. Branner."

Branner gave him an amused glance.

"Kyle, I know you don't want trouble with Tate. But just look at the evidence." He gestured toward the freshly-made brand mark of the Lucky Key ranch . . . an outline of a keyhole . . . burned into the soft hide of the calves. "There's the Lucky Key mark, and there's our older one. You can tell ours is older, because it's healed."

Kyle Nevins was silent as they led the animals back to the huddled herd and Branner prepared to start them off.

"You gonna charge Tate with rustlin'?" he asked finally.

"That I am," the ranch boss said grimly. "Why?"

"Well, you might be hasty," Nevins suggested.

Again Branner smiled.

"Kyle," he said, "tell you what I'll do. You prove to me that those two calves weren't rustled,

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY

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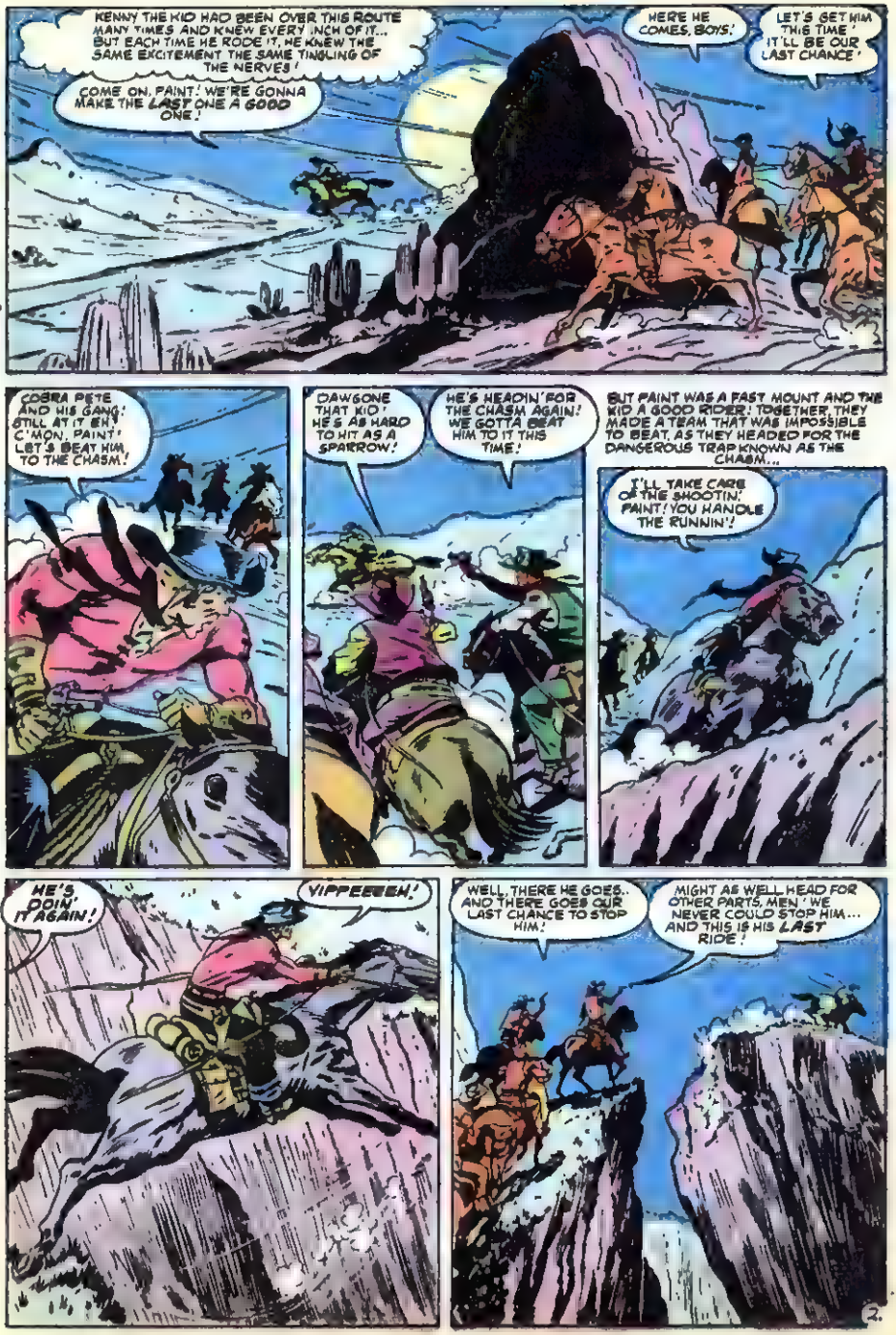
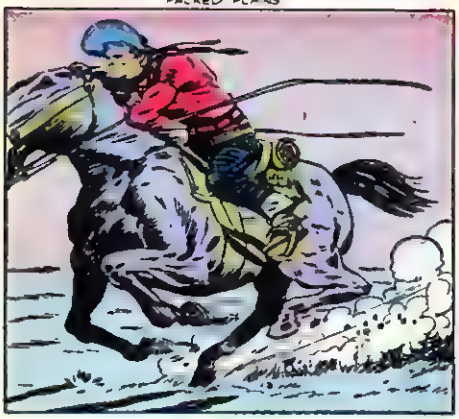
THE KID'S LAST RIDE!
LOOKS LIKE THAT'S IT, EH, QUENTIN?
YEP! IT'S THE KID'S LAST RIDE! I WISH I WAS THERE TO SEE THE FINISH OF IT! THERE WON'T BE ANYTHING LIKE THIS EVER AGAIN!
OFFICE
CHUCK ANDERSON
3

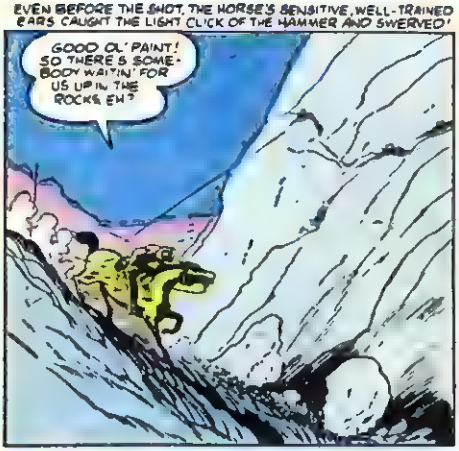

KENNY THE KID HAD BEEN OVER THIS ROUTE MANY TIMES AND KNEW EVERY INCH OF IT... BUT EACH TIME HE RODE IT, HE KNEW THE SAME EXCITEMENT THE SAME TINGLING OF THE NERVES!
COME ON, PAINT! WE'RE GONNA MAKE THE LAST ONE A GOOD ONE!
HERE HE COMES, BOYS!
LET'S GET HIM THIS TIME IT'LL BE OUR LAST CHANCE!
COBRA PETE AND HIS GANG! STILL AT IT EH? C'MON, PAINT! LET'S BEAT HIM TO THE CHASM!
DAWGONE THAT KID! HE'S AS HARD TO HIT AS A SPARROW!
HE'S HEADIN' FOR THE CHASM AGAIN! WE GOTTA BEAT HIM TO IT THIS TIME!
BUT PAINT WAS A FAST MOUNT AND THE KID A GOOD RIDER! TOGETHER, THEY MADE A TEAM THAT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO BEAT, AS THEY HEADED FOR THE DANGEROUS TRAP KNOWN AS THE CHASM...
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE SHOOTIN', PAINT! YOU HANDLE THE RUNNIN'!
HE'S DOIN' IT AGAIN!
YIPPEEEEH!
WELL, THERE HE GOES.. AND THERE GOES OUR LAST CHANCE TO STOP HIM!
MIGHT AS WELL HEAD FOR OTHER PARTS, MEN! WE NEVER COULD STOP HIM... AND THIS IS HIS LAST RIDE!
2.

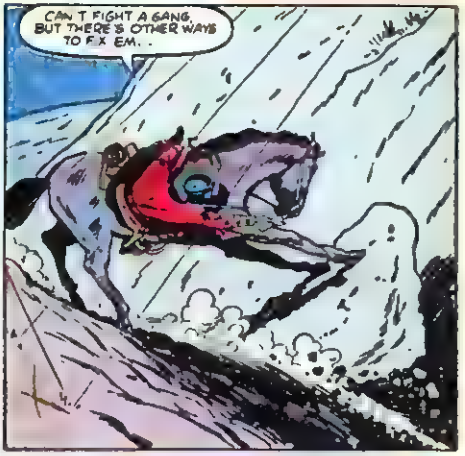
GOOD WORK PARDNER! WE DID IT AGAIN! YUH KNOW I'M GONNA MISS COBRA PETE AND HIS BOYS! WE SORTA LOOKED FORWARD TO THIS CHASE EVERY TIME, DIDN'T WE?
OH OH! LOOKA THERE, PAINT!
INDIANS! LOOKS LIKE THEY DIDN'T WANT ME TO FINISH MY LAST RIDE EITHER!
THEY'VE GIVEN ME PLENTY OF TROUBLE IN MY DAY, AND I RECKON THEY'RE FIXIN' TO TOP IT ALL OFF NOW! THE HILLS ARE FILLED WITH 'EM!
WHOAAA! HOW WE GONNA GET PAST THIS, PAINT?
HOW, KENNY THE KID!
HOW, STANDING ANTELOPE! YOU FIX N' TO STOP ME?
NOT THIS TIME, RIDER OF THE PLAINS!
THE WORD COMES THAT YOU RIDE NO MORE AFTER THIS! IS THE WORD A TRUE ONE?
IT IS! THIS IS MY LAST RIDE!
THEN GO IN PEACE, KENNY THE KID! YOU HAVE BEEN A WORTHY FOE AND WE RESPECT SUCH A ONE!
THANKS, STANDING ANTELOPE! THE FEELIN'S MUTUAL!

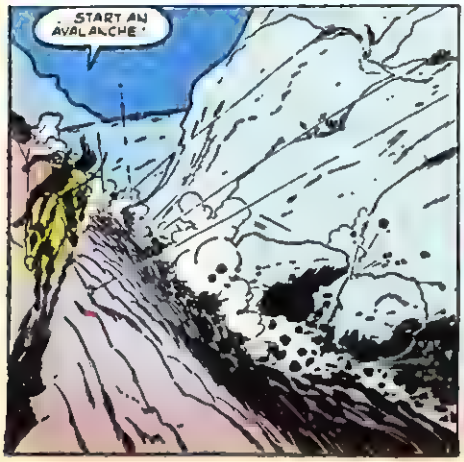
THE KID NEVER HALTED! MAN AND HORSE THUNDERED ON, HOOFS BEATING A STEADY TATTOO OF SOUND ON THE HARD-PACKED PLAINS



EVEN BEFORE THE SHOT, THE HORSE'S SENSITIVE, WELL-TRAINED EARS CAUGHT THE LIGHT CLICK OF THE HAMMER AND SWERVED!







HERE HE COMES! THE KID'S HERE! HE MADE IT AGAIN!
YAHOOO!
YIPEEE!
HOWDY, KID! HOW WAS YOUR LAST RIDE?
SAME AS USUAL, TIM! ...NOTHING DIFFERENT!
I BROUGHT IT THROUGH OKAY!
I KNEW YUH WOULD, KID! YOU ALWAYS DID!
HERE YUH ARE, MISTER ENGINEER! THE JOB'S YOURS FROM NOW ON!
THANKS, KID... AND I HOPE WE CAN KEEP UP THE REPUTATION OF MEN LIKE YOU!
U.S. MAIL
THE TRAIN CHUGGED UP SPEED AND PULLED AWAY, WHILE THE PEOPLE CHEERED AND THE HORSES SHIED AWAY FROM THE STRANGE IRON MONSTER!
C R R
SAY, MISTER, WHO WAS THAT RIDER EVERYBODY'S MAKING A FUSS OVER?
THE KID? WHY EVERYBODY KNOWS THE KID, STRANGER...
HE JUST FINISHED HIS LAST RIDE! FROM NOW ON, THE RAILROAD WILL TAKE OVER HIS JOB! YUH SEE... THE KID IS THE LAST RIDER OF THE PONY EXPRESS!
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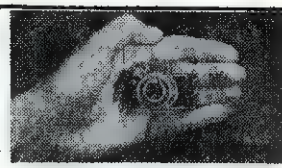

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...CONTINUED

and I'll buy you a new hat. But I'm pretty sure you can't. Anyway, I'm chargin' Tate Leggins tomorrow by noon, if you can't prove he didn't do it!"

Whipping a gun out of his holster, he fired it in the air, slapped rowels and rode to the left of the herd. The foreman followed suit with his own gun. Almost instantly, as the sound of the gunshots startled them, the herd broke the huddle and started to move south. Two hours later, they were safely corraled.

Next morning, rising early, Matt Branner prepared to go into town and charge Tate Leggins with cattle rustling and brand jumping before Sheriff Grogan. Kyle Nevins had already been up an hour before and had left for the north pastures.

"Now why did he do that?" Branner asked Joe Hawkins, the cowpoke in charge of the corrals, "I figured he'd be goin' into town with me about Tate Leggins."

"Search me, boss," Hawkins said. "Only thing Kyle said to me was to be sure you took both the calves with the Lucky Key brand with you into town when you went."

"I'm goin' to," Branner said testily. "I gotta have the evidence to show Sheriff Grogan before I charge Tate, don't I?"

"Kyle didn't say nothin' about you chargin' Tate," Joe said.

"Hmph!" the ranch boss rejoined. "Well, tie 'em both together . . . the branded calves, I mean, and let's get goin'! I'm givin' Kyle 'til noon, and not a minute more!" He paused and then muttered, "B'gosh, you'd think he was workin' for Tate Leggins 'stead of me!"

Branner and Hawkins, with the two calves in tow, started out for town at seven o'clock. By nine they were hitting the outskirts. Hawkins tied up both calves at the public corral near the cattle exchange and then rejoined Matt Branner on the porch of the Red Dog Hotel, where the two men took seats and started their wait.

From time to time, Branner leaned over the railing and glanced toward Sheriff Grogan's office. Through the glass window he could see Grogan sitting at his desk, working at some papers. Then, at eleven, Tate

Leggins sauntered by on his way to the cattle exchange. At half-past eleven, Leggins rode past again, on his way back to the Lucky Key ranch.

"Let him go back home," Branner muttered. "He'll just have to come back when Sheriff Grogan goes after him!"

He sat there on the porch watching laborers pile up snow cleared from the middle of the main street, and glancing at his watch. As the clock in the church steeple on the corner struck noon, he stood up determinedly. "Let's go!" he said to Hawkins.

But Joe Hawkins put out a hand.

"Here comes the foreman, boss!" he said.

Branner glanced up. Down the street came Kyle Nevins, a smile wreathing his face. He glanced right and left, looking for Branner. The ranch boss stepped out into the street, hailed Nevins and waited while the foreman reined in.

"You didn't charge Tate Leggins, did you, boss?" he asked, and when Branner said no, continued, "By the way, if you're gonna buy me a new ten gallon hat, we'd better start. Brent's Emporium closes at one o'clock."

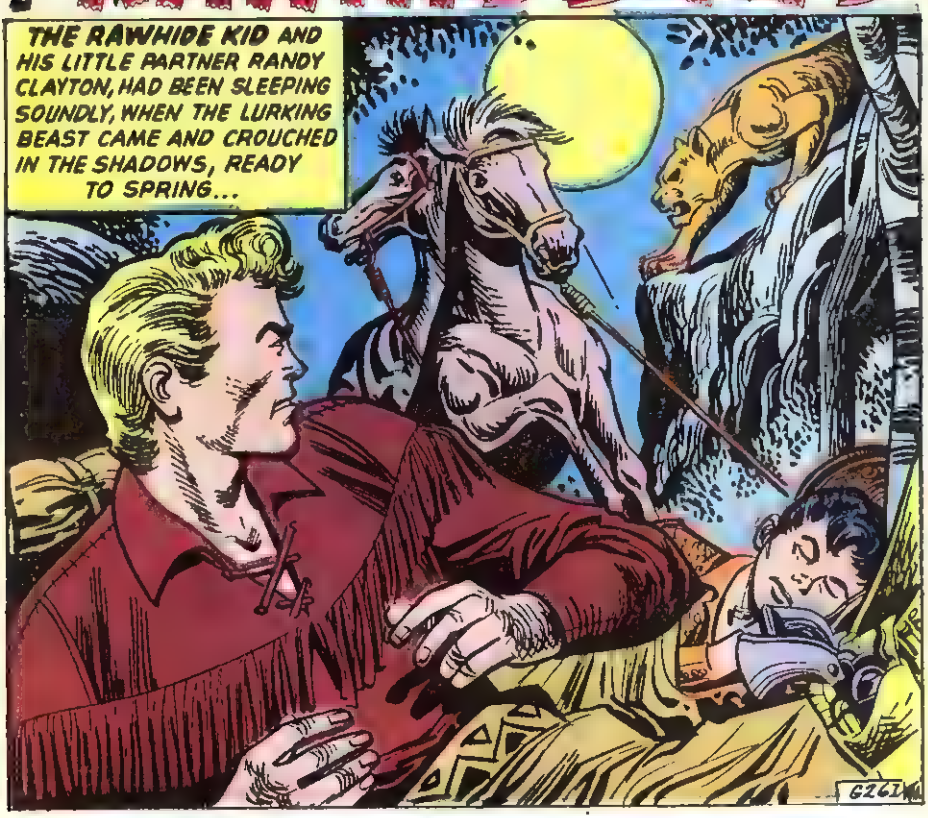
"What?" Branner roared. "I only said I'd buy you a hat if you proved my two calves weren't rustled!"

"Well, they weren't," Nevins said, chuckling. "I knew they weren't when I saw that your own brand *hadn't* been burned out. Rustlers always burn out the old brand when they put on a new one. So I figured maybe the brand was an accident, caused by something very hot. The only thing hot near the north pastures were those geysers and hot springs near the Park land. So I went over there this morning and found that one of the geyser holes was a small one, just the size and shape of the Lucky Key keyhole brand. What happened was that the calves got separated from the herd in the blizzard and wound up where it was warm, in the geyser area. Both of 'em sat down on the geyser hole and got branded, one after the other, when the water boiled through . . . and ran off somehow, onto Tate's spread."

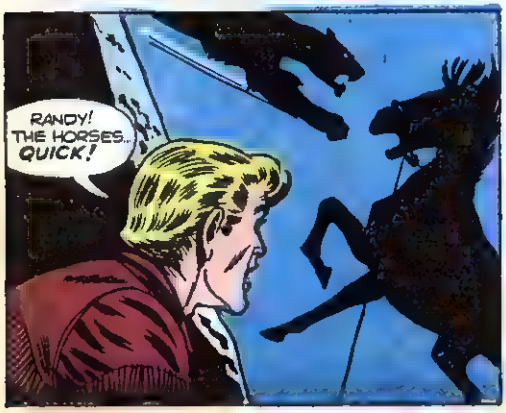
"Come on," Branner said, smiling. "I'm not only buying you a hat, but I'm buyin' one for Tate Leggins, too!"

THE END G-522

THE RAWHIDE KID


THE RAWHIDE KID AND HIS LITTLE PARTNER RANDY CLAYTON, HAD BEEN SLEEPING SOUNDLY, WHEN THE LURKING BEAST CAME AND CROUCHED IN THE SHADOWS, READY TO SPRING...
GZ61

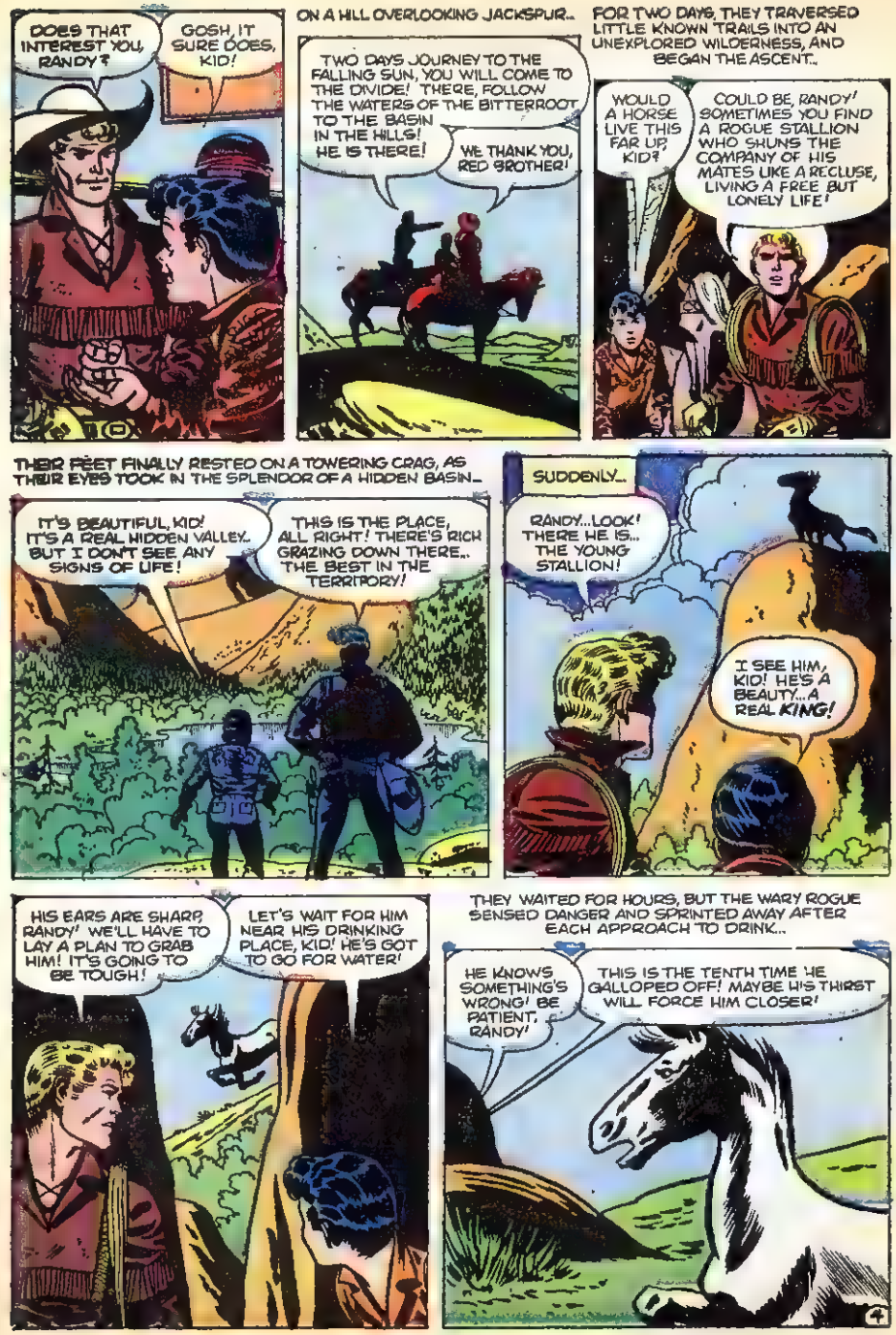
THE BEAST SPRANG, A SLEEK SHADOW WITH DYNAMIC POWER CRAMMED INTO ITS POWERFUL MUSCLES...



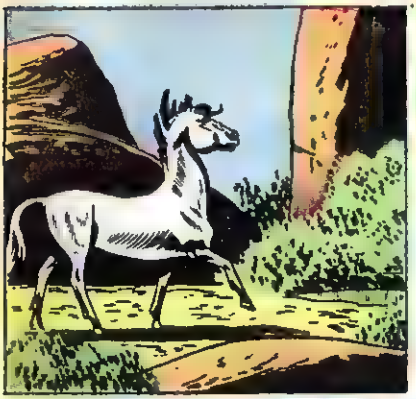
THE RAWHIDE KID WAS ON HIS FEET, SIX-GUNS CLATTERING IN THE DARK...

WITH MASTERLY SKILL, YOUNG RANDY CLAYTON SENT TWO .44 SLUGS SLAMMING INTO THE BEAST...
THAT DID IT, RANDY!
POOR HORSE! HE'S BEEN SCARED BAD! DO YOU THINK...
I'M SORRY, RANDY! I'M AFRAID SMOKEY'S NO GOOD FOR A RIDER ANY MORE! WE'LL HAVE TO PUT HIM OUT TO PASTURE!
HE WAS THE BEST LI'L PONY I EVER HAD!
I KNOW, RANDY! AFTER WE TURN SMOKEY OVER TO A RANCHER FRIEND OF MINE WE'LL TRY TO FIND YOU ANOTHER CAYUSE!
LATE THE NEXT DAY, AFTER THE FRIGHTENED HORSE HAD BEEN GIVEN A NEW HOME...
WHERE ARE WE GOING TO FIND ANOTHER HORSE, KID? GOOD ONES ARE EXPENSIVE!
YOU NEVER FIGURE EXPENSE WHEN IT COMES TO HORSES, RANDY! WE'LL RIDE INTO JACKSPUR AND LOOK OVER THE STOCK!
A FEW HOURS LATER IN THE THRIVING BORDER TOWN OF JACKSPUR..
IF THERE'S A GOOD HORSE IN THESE PARTS, YOU'LL FIND IT IN JACKSPUR, RANDY!
I'VE SEEN SOME NICE ONES..BUT NOT AS NICE AS MY PINTO WAS!
HORSES FOR SALE
FROM CORRAL TO CORRAL, THEY HUNTED FOR A HORSE TO PLEASE RANDY..
GOSH, I HAVEN'T SEEN A PONY I LIKE YET!
NEITHER HAVE I, RANDY! LET'S MOVE ON!
GIVE ME THEM REINS, YUH THIEVIN' VARMINT!
NO..NO! YOU ROB ME! IT IS NOT RIGHT!

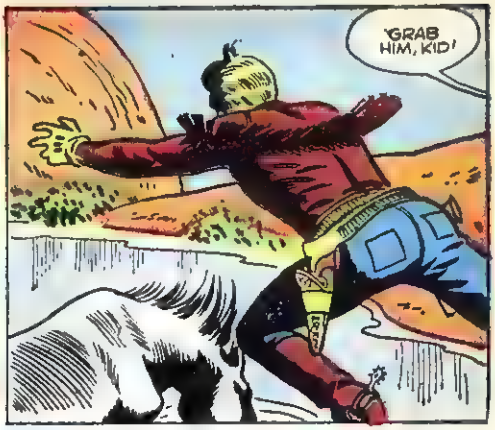
TAKE IT EASY, AMIGO! NO USE STARTIN' TROUBLE!
GIT YORE HANDS OFF ME, STRANGER OR I'LL TAN YORE HIDE!
WHY, I'LL..
IF IT'S PUNCHES YOU WANT TO TRADE, I'LL SWAP YOU EVEN!
LIKE THIS!
SPEAK YOUR PIECE, RED BROTHER! WHY DO YOU ARGUE?
I AM OLD AND POOR, BUT I HAVE ONE GOOD HORSE TO SELL! THIS MAN PROMISED ME A NEW RIFLE FOR THE HORSE!
HE TAKES MY HORSE... AND THIS IS WHAT HE GIVES ME!
AN OLD FLINTLOCK! HOW ABOUT IT, TRADER? GIVE THE REDSKIN A FAIR TRADE, OR LET HIM HAVE HIS HORSE!
LET HIM KEEP THE CROW-BAIT CAYUSE!
FAIR ENOUGH! NOW JINGLE YOUR SPURS AND VAMOOSE!
I AM YOUR BROTHER! THIS MORNING I WATCHED YOU AND THE LITTLE BRAVE LOOKING FOR HORSES! GOOD ONES ARE NOT HERE, BUT I KNOW OF A STALLION IN THE HILLS!


DOES THAT INTEREST YOU, RANDY?
GOSH, IT SURE DOES, KID!
ON A HILL OVERLOOKING JACKSPUR..
TWO DAYS JOURNEY TO THE FALLING SUN, YOU WILL COME TO THE DIVIDE! THERE, FOLLOW THE WATERS OF THE BITTERROOT TO THE BASIN IN THE HILLS! HE IS THERE!
WE THANK YOU, RED BROTHER!
FOR TWO DAYS, THEY TRAVERSED LITTLE KNOWN TRAILS INTO AN UNEXPLORED WILDERNESS, AND BEGAN THE ASCENT..
WOULD A HORSE LIVE THIS FAR UP, KID?
COULD BE, RANDY! SOMETIMES YOU FIND A ROGUE STALLION WHO SHUNS THE COMPANY OF HIS MATES LIKE A RECLUSE, LIVING A FREE BUT LONELY LIFE!
THEIR FEET FINALLY RESTED ON A TOWERING CRAG, AS THEIR EYES TOOK IN THE SPLENDOR OF A HIDDEN BASIN..
IT'S BEAUTIFUL, KID! IT'S A REAL HIDDEN VALLEY.. BUT I DON'T SEE ANY SIGNS OF LIFE!
THIS IS THE PLACE, ALL RIGHT! THERE'S RICH GRAZING DOWN THERE.. THE BEST IN THE TERRITORY!
SUDDENLY..
RANDY..LOOK! THERE HE IS... THE YOUNG STALLION!
I SEE HIM, KID! HE'S A BEAUTY.. A REAL KING!
HIS EARS ARE SHARP, RANDY! WE'LL HAVE TO LAY A PLAN TO GRAB HIM! IT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH!
LET'S WAIT FOR HIM NEAR HIS DRINKING PLACE, KID! HE'S GOT TO GO FOR WATER!
THEY WAITED FOR HOURS, BUT THE WARY ROGUE SENSED DANGER AND SPRINTED AWAY AFTER EACH APPROACH TO DRINK..
HE KNOWS SOMETHING'S WRONG! BE PATIENT, RANDY!
THIS IS THE TENTH TIME HE GALLOPED OFF! MAYBE HIS THIRST WILL FORCE HIM CLOSER!
4

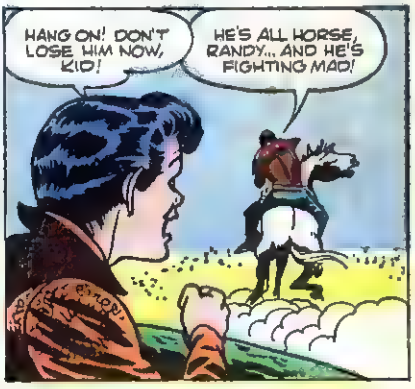
SLOWLY CAT-FOOTING LIKE A BALLERINA, THE MAGNIFICENT STALLION INCHED NERVOUSLY TOWARD THE PRECIOUS WATER..



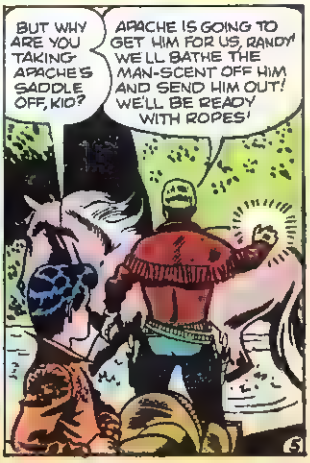
AND AS HE ARCHED HIS GRACEFUL NECK TO DRINK..



BUNCHING HIS MUSCLES IN A TITANIC EFFORT TO REGAIN HIS FREEDOM, THE FIGHTING STALLION SPED LIKE THE WIND..



SUDDENLY, THE STEEL-MUSCLED STALLION MADE A DASH AGAINST A BRUSH-COVERED SLAB OF GRANITE..


BUT WHY ARE YOU TAKING APACHE'S SADDLE OFF, KID?
APACHE IS GOING TO GET HIM FOR US, RANDY! WE'LL BATHE THE MAN-SCENT OFF HIM AND SEND HIM OUT! WE'LL BE READY WITH ROPES!

MOMENTS LATER, APACHE CAME OUT OF THE POOL WITH DRIPPING FLANKS, CLEANSED OF THE MAN-SCENT...

HERD HIM CLOSE TO WHERE WE'LL BE WAITING! UNDERSTAND? NOW GO GET HIM!

THE INTELLIGENT ANIMAL SPED ACROSS THE VALLEY AND SECONDS LATER MET HIS MATCH..

BUT APACHE WASN'T LOOKING FOR A FIGHT! USING HIS RANGE-TRAINED SENSE TO GOOD ADVANTAGE, HE FLANKED THE WILD STALLION INTO A RUN...

AND AS THE YOUNG ROGUE STALLION WAS HERDED AGAINST THE VALLEY WALL, A DIFFERENT FIGURE LEAPED ON HIS BACK...

I'M FAST, RANDY! RIDE HIM HARD WHILE I HANG ON!

NOW WITH A STRANGE WEIGHT ON HIS BACK AND A STOUT ROPE THWARTING HIS WILD SPIRITS, THE STALLION FOUGHT ANEW...

FOR AN HOUR THE MIGHTY COLT SHOWED HIS TRICKS AND THEN WITH FLANKS HEAVING, HE SHUDDERED TO A HALT...

IT'S OVER, RANDY! HE'S YOUR HORSE!

GOOD BOY...EASY! YOU'RE MINE, FELLOW! YOU'RE MY DREAM HORSE!

WELL, ALL HE NEEDS NOW IS A NAME!

AND I'VE GOT ONE FOR HIM, KID! I'LL CALL HIM *KING!*

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HOW TO SOLVE SAMPLE PUZZLE

CLUE No. 1: THE "HOOSIER" STATE.

You will see there are a SINK, a DIAL, the SOLE of a shoe and various letters of the alphabet. There are two plus and two minus signs. It is necessary to add and subtract the names and letters as shown by the plus and minus signs. First, write down SINK. Then, add DIAL to it. Next, add ONEA. All this equals SINKDIALONEA. Now, you must subtract the letters in SOLE and K. When this is done you are left with INDIANA. Indiana is the Hoosier State, so the result checks with Clue No. 1.

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Examine the SAMPLE PUZZLE at the left. See how much fun it is with every picture waiting to be identified! Notice this fascinating feature also. Each puzzle has TWO (2) CLUES to assist you to the correct answer. First you identify the pictures — then check your answers by a table of letter values.

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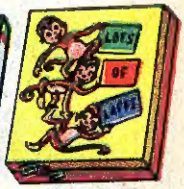

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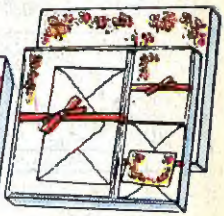

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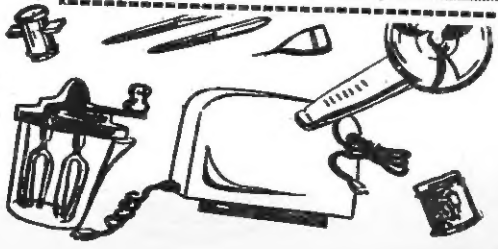

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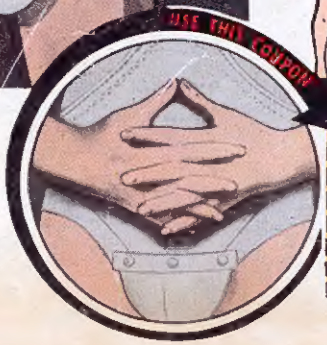

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